

## L A Y

in hand, that they said they would never bear arms more against the Turks, if he omitted that occasion. *Kueller.*

To LAY. *v. n.*

1. To bring eggs.  
Hens will greedily eat the herb which will make them lay the better. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*
2. To contrive.

Which mov'd the king,  
By all the aptest means could be procur'd,  
To lay to draw him in by any train. *Daniel's Civil War.*

3. To LAY about. To strike on all sides; to act with great diligence and vigour.

At once he wards and strikes, he takes and pays,  
Now forc'd to yield, now forcing to invade,  
Before, behind, and round about him lays. *Fa. Queen.*

Than th' Amazonian dame Penthesile. *Hudibras.*  
In the late successful rebellion, how studiously did they lay about them, to cast a slur upon the king. *South's Sermons.*  
He provides elbow-room enough for his conscience to lay about, and have its full play in. *South's Sermons.*

4. To LAY at. To strike; to endeavour to strike.

Piercely the good man did at him lay,  
The blade off groaned under the blow. *Spenser's Pastoral.*  
The sword of him that layeth at him cannot hold. *Job.*

5. To LAY in for. To make overtures of oblique invitation.

I have laid in for thee, by rebating the satire, where justice would allow it, from carrying too sharp an edge. *Dryden.*

6. To LAY on. To strike; to beat.

His heart laid on as if it try'd,  
To force a passage through his side. *Hudibras.*

7. To LAY on. To act with vehemence.

My father has made her mistress  
Of the feast, and the lays it on. *Shakef. Winter's Tale.*

8. To LAY out. To take measures.

Those ants knew some days after they had nothing to fear,  
and began to lay out their corn in the sun. *Adams's Guard.*  
I made strict enquiry wherever I came, and laid out for intelligence of all places, where the intrails of the earth were laid open. *Woodward.*

LAY. *n. f.* [from the verb.]

1. A row; a stratum.

A viol should have a lay of wire-strings below, as close to the belly as the lute, and then the strings of guts mounted upon a bridge as in ordinary viols, that the upper strings stricken might make the lower rebound. *Bacon.*

Upon this they lay a layer of stone, and upon that a lay of wood. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

2. A wager.

It is esteemed an even lay, whether any man lives ten years longer; I suppose it is the same, that one of any ten might die within one year. *Graunt's Bills of Mortality.*

LAY. *n. f.* [ley, leag, Saxon; ley, Scottish.] Grassly ground; meadow; ground unplowed, and kept for cattle: more frequently, and more properly, written *lea*.

A tuft of daisies on a flow'ry lay  
They saw. *Dryden's Flower and Leaf.*

The plowing of *layers* is the first plowing up of grass ground for corn. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

LAY. *n. f.* [lay, French.] It is said originally to signify sorrow or complaint, and then to have been transferred to poems written to express sorrow. It is derived by the French from *leste*, Latin, a funeral song; but it is found likewise in the Teutonic dialect: *ley*, leod, Saxon; *ley*, Danish.] A song; a poem.

To the maiden's founding timbrels sung,  
In well attuned notes, a joyous lay. *Spenser's Fairy Queen.*

Soon he slumber'd, fearing not be harm'd,  
The whiles with a loud lay, the thus him sweetly charm'd. *Spenser's Fairy Queen, b. ii.*

This is a most majestic vision, and  
Harmonious charming lays. *Shakef. Tempest.*

Nor then the solemn nightingale  
Ceas'd warbling, but all night tun'd her soft lays. *Milton.*

If Jove's will  
Have link'd that amorous power to thy soft lay, *Milton.*

Now timely sing.  
He reach'd the nymph with his harmonious lay, *Waller.*

Whom all his charms could not incline to stay.  
On Ceres let him call, and Ceres praise,  
With uncouth dances, and with country lays. *Dryd. Virg.*

Ev'n gods incline their ravish'd ears,  
And tune their own harmonious spheres. *Dennis.*

LAY. *adj.* [laicus, Latin; λαϊκός, Greek.] Not clerical; regarding or belonging to the people as distinct from the clergy.

All this they had by law, and none repin'd,  
The preference was but due to Levi's kind:  
But when some lay preferment fell by chance, *Dryden.*

The Gourmands made it their inheritance.

## L A Z

Laz persons, married or unmarried, being doctors of the civil law, may be chancellors, officials, &c. *Ayliffe's Parerg.*

It might well startle  
Our laz unlearned faith. *Rowe's Ambitious Step Mother.*

LAY. *n. f.* [from lay.]

1. A stratum, or row; a bed; one body spread over another.

A layer of rich mould beneath, and about this natural earth to nourish the fibres. *Evelyn's Kalendar.*

The terrestrial matter is disposed into strata or layers, placed one upon another, in like manner as any earthy sediment, settling down from a flood in great quantity, will naturally be. *Woodward's Natural History.*

2. A sprig of a plant.

Many trees may be propagated by layers: this is to be performed by fitting the branches a little way, and laying them under the mould about half a foot; the ground should be first made very light, and after they are laid, they should have a little water given them: if they do not comply well in the laying of them down, they must be pegged down with a hook or two; and if they have taken sufficient root by the next winter, they must be cut off from the main plants, and planted in the nursery: some twirl the branch, or bare the rind; and if it be out of the reach of the ground, they fasten a tub or basket near the branch, which they fill with good mould, and lay the branch in it. *Miller.*

Transplant also carnation seedlings, give your layers fresh earth, and set them in the shade for a week. *Evelyn's Kal.*

3. A hen that lays eggs.

The oldest are always reckoned the best layers, and the youngest the best layers. *Mortimer's Husbandry.*

LAYMAN. *n. f.* [lay and man.]

1. One of the people distinct from the clergy.

Laymen will neither admonish one another themselves, nor suffer ministers to do it. *Government of the Tongue.*

Since a trait must be, he thought it best  
To put it out of laymen's power at least,  
And for their solemn vows prepar'd a priest. *Dryden.*

Where can be the grievance, that an ecclesiastical landlord should expect a third part value for his lands, his title as ancient, and as legal, as that of a layman, who is seldom guilty of giving such beneficial bargains. *Swift.*

2. An image.

You are to have a layman almost as big as the life for every figure in particular, besides the natural figure before you. *Dryden's Dufresnoy.*

LAYSTALL. *n. f.* An heap of dung.

Scarce could he footing find in that foul way,  
For many corles, like a great lay-stall  
Of murdered men, which therein strewed lay. *Fa. Qy.*

LAZAR. *n. f.* [from Lazarus in the gospel.] One deformed and nauseous with filthy and pestilential diseases.

They ever after in most wretched case,  
Like loathsome lazars, by the hedges lay. *Fairy Queen.*

I'll be sworn and sworn upon't, the never shrow'd any but lazars. *Shakef. Tempest.*

I am weary with drawing the deformities of life, and lazars of the people, where every figure of imperfection more resembles me. *Dryden's Aurengzebe.*

Life he labours to refine  
Daily, nor of his little stock denies  
Fit alms, to lazars, merciful, and meek. *Philips.*

LAZAR-HOUSE. *n. f.* [lazaret, French; lazzeretto, Italian; LAZARETTO. *n. f.* from lazaret.] A house for the reception of the diseased; an hospital.

A place  
Before his eyes appear'd, sad, noisome, dark,  
A lazaret-house it seem'd, where were laid  
Numbers of all diseases. *Milton's Paradise Lost, b. xi.*

LAZARWORT. *n. f.* A plant.

LAZILY. *adv.* [from lazily.] Idly; sluggishly; heavily.

Watch him at play, when following his own inclinations; and see whether he be stirring and active, or whether he lazily and listlessly dreams away his time. *Locke.*

The eastern nations view the rising fires,  
Whilst night shades us, and lazily retires. *Creech.*

LAZINESS. *n. f.* [from lazily.] Idleness; sluggishness; heaviness to action.

That instance of fraud and laziness, the unjust steward, who pleaded that he could neither dig nor beg, would quickly have been brought both to dig and to beg too, rather than starve. *South's Sermons.*

My fortune you have rescued, not only from the power of others, but from my own modesty and laziness. *Dryden.*

LAZING. *adj.* [from lazily.] Sluggish; idle.

The hands and the feet munitied against the belly: they knew no reason, why the one should be lazine, and pampering itself with the fruit of the other's labour. *L'Estrange.*

The lot cried, *Utinam hoc esset laborare*, while he lay lazine and lolling upon his couch. *South's Sermons.*

LAZULI. *n. f.*

The ground of this stone is blue, veined and spotted with white,

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white, and a glittering or metallic yellow: it appears to be composed of, first, a white sparry, or crystalline matter; secondly, flakes of the golden or yellow talc; thirdly, a shining yellow substance; this fumes off in the calcination of the stone, and casts a sulphureous smell; fourthly, a bright blue substance, of great use among the painters, under the name of ultramarine; and when rich, is found, upon trial, to yield about one-sixth of copper, with a very little silver.

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